Policy, Standards & Regulations

Public Health Dept. — Chronic Disease Program

Start → 1 Identify Health Issue → 2 Identify Evidence-Based Practices → 5 Recommend Policy, Standard or Regulation → 6 Develop or Modify Policy, Standard or Regulation → 7 Approve or Modify? → (No) back; (Yes) → 8 Develop Education & Advocacy Plans → 11 Evaluate Process Effectiveness → 12 Continue, Modify or End? → (End) End; (Cont.); (Modify)

Community — Partners & Stakeholders

3 Assess Health Policy Environment → 4 Conduct Strategic Planning

9 Mobilize Partners & Stakeholders → 10 Educate Policy Makers & Promote Needed Changes

Activity Details / Narrative

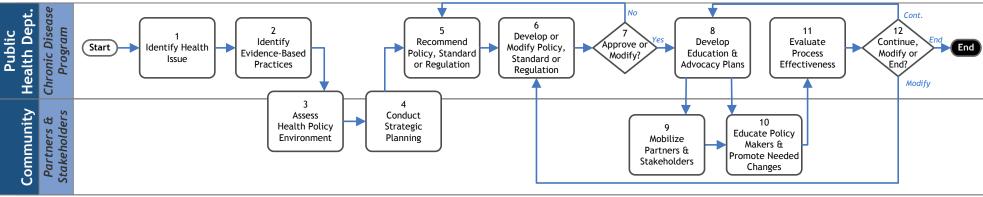### General Process Notes
- The public health department and communities share an interest in instituting effective health policies, standards and regulations for impacting chronic diseases.
- "Health Standards", as used in this business process, means evidence based protocols and/ or guidelines for care and/or practice in chronic disease primary, secondary and tertiary prevention and control.

1. Identify Health Issue
- The development of health policies, standards and regulations are initiated when current regulations are out of date, new evidence shows a need for a change in standards, changes in policies or mandates occur, new issues are raised by state or community surveillance, etc.

2. Identify Evidence-Based Practices
- To be effective, health policies, standards and regulations (HPSR) require broad consensus and support. Two development steps help achieve this:
  - Institute HPSR anchored in current evidence-based science and standards.
  - Bring together diverse stakeholders and SMEs to collaborate on incorporating these standards into HPSR.

3. Assess Health Policy Environment
- Assessing the environment into which health policies, standards and regulations will be implemented allows the design of health programs to be uniquely tailored to the needs of communities.
- Data collected for the environment assessment include interviews of stakeholders and providers, and a review of disease prevalence or incidence, assets and liabilities in target communities.

4. Conduct Strategic Planning
- Integrate new and existing evidence-based protocols and/or practices into strategic planning activities.
- Collaborate with community stakeholders on incorporating these protocols and practices into HPSR.

5. Recommend Policy, Standard or Regulation
- Based on review and discussion, recommend a health policy, standard or regulation.

6. Develop or Modify Policy, Standard or Regulation
- Based on review and discussion, draft a health policy, standard or regulation.
- Respond to legislative requests and fiscal notes.

7. Approve or Modify Policy, Standard or Regulation?
- The chronic disease program submits the proposed health policy, standard or regulation to health department administration for approval. If not approved, they must be revised.

8. Develop Education & Advocacy Plans
- The chronic disease program and supporting partners develop plans, methods and tools for educating policy makers and stakeholders about the proposed health policy, standard or regulation and for advocating its adoption into practice.
- The program also develops a plan to evaluate their success in achieving adoption of the health policy, standard or regulation.

9. Mobilize Partners & Stakeholders
- **BP: Partner Mobilization** State and local departments of health can only assume a limited role in the effort to promote the adoption of a proposed health policy, standard or regulation and must collaborate with supportive partners and stakeholders who can engage in more active advocacy.

10. Educate Policy Makers & Promote Needed Changes
- Policy makers are the primary target for advocating changes in policies and statutes.
- Regulation and standards changes will primarily involve educating community stakeholders and providers.

11. Evaluate Process Effectiveness
- The program, in collaboration with its partners, evaluates the success in achieving adoption of the health policy, standard or regulation.
- The results are described in an evaluation report which is disseminated to the partners and stakeholders involved in the adoption of the policy, standard or regulation.

12. Continue, Modify or End?
- Following the evaluation report, the program and its partners decide whether to continue promoting the adoption activities unchanged, modify or expand the adoption plans or end the effort whether due to success or failure.